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Bring Out the Truth Now. President McKinley is reported as having said in regard to the terrible condition of our army camps that he "believes there are miti points to be considered of which

the general public is ignorant." If the President really believes this it furnishes an additional reason for ordering a searching investigation now.

What are the "mitigating circumstances" attending the death in Europe knows that this is true. of ten times as many soldiers from neglect, disease and starvation as were killed in all the war by the Spaniards?

What "circumstances" can miti. gate the sufferings of the worn and wasted men now returning to us, or assuage the anguish of the friends who greet these miserable wrecks with sobs and tears?

What are the "points" of which "the general public is ignorant" that will explain or extenuate the horrible mismanagement of the commissary, the medical and the movement was made?

For the sake of the Government and the nation any "mitigating circumstances" or extenuating facts connected with these horrors ought to be made public officially at once. The people's indignation fast rising into anger. The glory

our swift and complete victories e war is in danger of being dimor eclipsed in the eyes of the d by these revelations of igice, incompetence, indifferand fatal cruelty.

On the other hand the President has assured the country that "when the time comes" the matter "will be thoroughly investigated, and if there are guilty parties they will be punished."

The time is now.

Shearing the Locks of Samson, When the war with Spain began the United States was a fighting, but not a military, nation. It had a limitless supply of the most superb martial material on earth. It knew that it was unprepared for war in the matters of organization and discipline, but it believed that a few months of training would be enough to turn its splendid volunteers into an invincible army.

The brilliant charges at Santiago proved that those expectations were reasonable. What European experts believed to be impossible had been accomplished. The volunteers stood fire like veterans. There was no reason then why the 1st day of September should not find us with an army of 275,000 strong, superior in fighting power to any other of its size in the world, its men hardened and invigorated by a summer of life in the open air in camps chosen for their salubrity, and ready to spring to any service.

Instead, we find ourselves with the tottering skeleton of an army, wasted by disease and starvation, and less ready in all respects to take the field against an enemy than it was three months ago. Worse yet, the very springs of national military vigor have been sapped. We have ten million men from whom we could have created new armies if the first one had been wiped out by an enemy, but who is going to enlist to face starvation. disease and death wantonly inflicted by his own Government? If the President should issue another call for 200,000 men, does anybody suppose that eight hundred thousand would leap to answer it?

What the Czar Really Said. Zvery one both here and abroad eems to be saying that the Czar's nvitation is a tremendous docu-

-seems to have thought it worth while to read the document.

All discussion is based upon the idea that the Czar has proposed a general disarmament and an imdream of "a federation of the world." As a matter of fact the thing. If he had he would invite the tate of his ancestor Paul, who was dethroned as a maniac for suggesting as a means of ending the trightful wars of the last century that "all the sovereigns of Europe repair to a certain spot and fight in single combat, bringing with them as seconds and esquires their most enlightened

ministers and able generals." What Nicolas really asks is that

2. "The possible reduction of the excessive armaments which weigh upon all nations."

no suspicion of the Utopian about | though in a more disguised tormit. As a matter of plain fact, unless | the inhabitants of the island, the | dition of modern society. gating circumstances, as well as the European powers do get to gether and come to some under-Europe cannot long escape desolation and ruin similar to that unutterable woe which the century of religious war brought upon Germany. And every statesman

> The Czar naturally took the initiative in a course that is the only alternative to a cataclysmic upheaval in the form of cival wars or of international wars, or of both. The sensible invitation was worthy of the young man who in his condolences upon the death of Gladstone expressed his especial admiration for his humane and benevolent and democratic political

Why Does Alger Praise Shafter? There is one person whom Mr. transportation bureaus of the War Alger speaks of in terms specially Department ever since the first eulogistic; and that man is General Shafter. It is matter of common report that General Shafter owed his appointment to Mr. Alger; will Mr. Alger deny it? It is also matter of common report that this general, whose "insistence" and "impetuosity" Mr. Alger praises, spent the time when our troops were taking El Caney and charging the batteries on San Juan hill in lying under the awning on the deck of the steamer Olivette. Will Mr. Alger, or will General Shafter say that this report has no foundation? And will they also deny that General Shafter, after those battles in which he did not take part, telegraphed to the War Department that he was beaten, and wished to retreat? And is finally, Secretary Alger aware that General Wheeler, whom he obliquely criticises, was as sick as General Shafter on the day of the battle before Santiago; but that, instead of remaining in the rear, he caused himselt to be carried forward on a litter; that from the litter he caused himself to be lifted on a horse, and that on that horse he stayed during the whole engagement, and was the life and inspiration of the battle? It is true that General Wheeler weighs two or three times less than General Shaf er, but why was Gen. Shafter sent to Cuba as Commander-in

Chief of the army? A Candidate for Stripes.

The transport San Marcos on its arrival off Montauk Point, the other day, repeated the same tale of misery that has nauseated the public on the arrival of the Seneca, Concho, Mobile and Mohawk. In the case of the San Marcos all the ordinary sources of torment were intensified by a brutal military commander. Captain Abner H. Merrill, who was in charge of the troops on this ship, has missed his vocation. The occupation for which Providence clearly designed him is that of picking oakum in a to be every effort to carry out the divine intentions in his case.

It was this officer's duty to look after the health and comfort of the troops in his charge. Instead he seemed to exert 'simself to make them wretched. He allowed them to be fed on starvation rations and herded in filthy quarters; he forbade them proper air and exercise; he continually swore at them in flagrant contempt of the regulations; he locked them up on trivial pretexts: he drove wounded men

below with profane abuse. Such officers as this are discouragers of patriotism. If the Government should allow such conduct as theirs to escape pun-

The Barbarous Spaniards.

treated by the Spaniards as an interior race. As a result, the most annoying and vexatious methods mediate realization of the poet's are resorted to by the latter in their dealings with them. During the term of office of the Cap-Czar has not proposed any such tain-General D. Miguel Facon, many Cubans were compelled to work on public buildings and promenades, says Antonio Gonzalo Peres, member of the Cuban Junta, in the Nineteenth Century, and to assist in the construction of fortresses, prisons, and palaces, without payment and without any discrimination between rich and poor; the purpose being to remind them of their enslayed condition and the power and superiority of the powers of the earth come the Spaniards. Those who were any ill feeling on the part of this sciously, by commission or omismore than one was publicly whip ped in Havana city by his com-This is not Utopian, There is mand. At that time, as today, alnatives, were obliged to perform acts of submission and servility if standing on exactly these matters, they would enjoy the favor of the authorities.

> Yet, as the natural course of progress cannot be stayed by the vexatious restrictions of tyrants, Cuba, in spite of the barbarous treatment dealt out to her by Spain. was growing daily richer and more civilized. Modern ideas were wafted over the island from one end to the other. These ideas, rapidly assimilated by the quick tropical minds of the people, created new desires and aspirations. The evidences of a superior culture soon became apparent. As the seed of certain plants carried by birds from far countries and dropped upon a congenial soil will originate a new and luxuriant yegetation, to the astonishment of the owner thereof, so did the growing custom of wealthy Cubans, who early in this century began to visit toreign lands as pleasure-scars, returning with a store of new impressions, import into Cuba the seeds of that liberty-loving spirit which, nurtured by the blood of martyrs, was to manifest itself in so gallant a fashion in after years.

Of the Cubans persecuted by Spain on account of their opinions at this period (1840-50) the most illustrious were Saco, Heredia, and Luz y Caballero. This last was perhaps the most popular in the island, owing to his denunciation of the Government and to his teachings of political emancipa tion. He was the idol of the people. The appellation of "El Maestro" bestowed upon him by his tellow citizens will show the general love and reverence felt for him, which feeling has descended from generation to generation until to-day. The hatred of the Spanish to Luz y Caballero knew no bounds, and even to-day the mere mention of his name will arouse in them some expression of this dis-

Saco was a writer, and his "Historia de la Esclavitud en Cuba" is an excellent work. When in the British Isles, he was the guest of his illustrious contemporary Sir Walter Scott, Heredia was a great poet, and his magnificent "Oda al Niagara" will suffice to place his name among the most remarkable of this century.

The intamous policy of General Facon, in creating a line of division between Cuban and Spaniard, resulted in the line becoming an abyss as the years rolled by. Encouraged by the Government, the latter, closely united, succeeded in forming a dominant class, who, actuated solely by the desire tor gain, devised the most diabolical schemes in order to appropriate to themselves the immense wealth in the legitimate possession of the Cubans. These schemes were coldly and deliberately put into commodious jail, and there ought execution from time to time. In the year 1844, in connivance with the Government, they suppressed a supposititious conspiracy called the "Slaves' Conspiracy," which as a matter of fact, was never in existence, except on paper, and is only another instance of Spanish treachery. It was sim ly a pretext to terrorize the unfortunate natives. For the averred purpose of discovering and punishing the said conspirators, according to some writers, about 50,000 persons were destroyed, mainly negroes and mulattos, both slaves and freemen, after the most horrible tortures had been inflicted upon them. Thousands died on a

The Cubans are regarded and naked upon a ladder, face downwards; then, after being secured with cords, he was whipped on the back with a lash called "cuaeta," made of three or more strips of dry leather tightly interwoven. This torture was inflicted in order to wrest a confession of guilt from the wretched prisoners, or the denunciation of imaginary suspected accomplices, in the majority of cases until merciful death put an end to their sufferings. Neither men nor women, old nor young,

Is the Czar's Dream Utopian

were spared by these barbarians

It is not to be wondered at that the proposition of disarmament put forward by the young Czar of Russia should stagger the intellect together to discuss ways and means | unfortunate enough as to arouse | of Europe and evoke as a first response an almost universal doubt, 1. "The maintenance of general despot, consciously or uncon- first, of the Czar's sincerity, and next, whether the plan is practicsion, were severely punished, and able. The idea of the armed camp has as thoroughly permeated and possessed the European mind that it is now regarded as the inevitable, the divinely ordered con-

The system which the Czar of Russia would wish to see changed takes from the productive industries of Europe and keeps constantly in its military and naval service more than five millions of men, all able and active and in the prime of life, It takes from the taxpayers of Europe more than a thousand million of dollars every year to meet the cost of maintaining the five millions of fighting men.

To propose the destruction of so vast a system may seem Utopian, but the language of the letter of the Czar is sensible and moderate, and Russia has shown that an absolute despotism can do great

things. Forty years ago one-half the people of Russia were serfs, the property and chattels of the other half. More than twenty millions of them were the property of private proprietors, as village serfs or domestic servants; more than three and a half millions belonged to the imperial family, and the serfs on the church and state lands brought the total number up to more than forty millions.

Here was a system older than the armed camp idea and more deeply rooted, and yet after less than six years of preparation the decree of February, 1861, put an end to serfdom forever in Russia.

The most powerful despotism in Europe anticipated the United States in freeing itself from the burden of seridom. It would only be in line with this achievement if the same power should succeed fifty years later in freeing Europe from the incubus of its army and navy, the burden of which is rapidly growing unbearable.

No "Superfluous Women."

The Government has published map showing for each State in the Union the number of unmarried men and unmarried women over twenty years of age.

With a peculiarly childlike faith the census officials believe they know the exact ages of all "unattached females," and accordingly they are grouped in fiveyear periods. In that particular the statis ics are absolutely untrustworthy, but apart from that the figures are absolute.

And they are very astonishing. They show definitely that the "surplus woman" is a myth. There is no surplus of women. There is a snortage of 2,200,000. There are in the United States 5,457,761 bachelors over twenty years of age, and only 3,224,449 unmarried women of the same age.

But this is not the least astonishing part of the matter. The chart shows that in absolutely every State there is an excess of bachelors over maidens.

Even in Massachusetts, where tradition fixes the home of the "surplus woman," there are 226,084 available bachelors and only 219,

In Rhode Island there are 2 per cent. more bachelors than unmarried women, in New Hampshire per cent., in Connecticut 20 per cent., in New Jersey and Virginia 32 per cent., while in Idaho the excess of bachelors over maids is 1,000 per cent, there being 17,584 unmarried men and only 1,426 sin gle women. Wyoming and Arizona closely follow, while all the Far Western States have reason to regard woman as one of the "precious metals" because of her scar-

But the one fact of greatest inter-

the defenceless accused entirely DUR FOREIGN NEWS.

Iranslated and Selected from leading European papers for the SENTINEL.

ENGLAND.

THE FALL OF MANILA AND THE END OF THE WAR.

Standard-London, Aug. 17. With the fall of Manila the Spanish American war, formally concluded by the protocol signed last week, is actually at an end, Yesterday President McKinley nominated several members of the Peace Commission. There is, therefore, no excuse for further fighting, even if any American captain or Spanish general should desire to strike another blow for the honor of his flag. General Augusti himself has arrived at Hong Kong on board a German cruiser, having characteristically decided to avoid the personal humiliation of delivering his sword to the victorious invaders

A new and better era for Spain may date from the day when she has ceased to lock up her armies and waste her resources among the tever haunted brakes of the tropical island. It is left for the United States to find some means of restoring settled prosperity and respect for law in that country. The task is no easy one, as their brief experience with the Cuban rebels must have already convinced the American com manders, But, indeed, the legacy of embarrassment which the war has left the United States is heavy enough. She has entered upon a new path, and has to tace a whole set of problems from which hitherto her statesmen have been fortunately free. Even if she abstains from annexation in the Philippines, the war leaves her with subject populations across the seas, with distant islands to police and administer, and naval staions to garrison and protect The future, indeed, looms dim with hopes and apprehensions before the American people, and their anxieties and aspirations alike will be regarded with sympathetic eyes in this country. Meanwhile, we can honestly congratu late them on bringing to a successful lose their first important campaign beyond the seas that wash their shores, and we can share with them the satisfaction they feel in a success mainly achieved by their skill and enterprise on that element which has been the scene of the most splendid triumphs of the Anglo Saxon race.

Times-London, August 6.

Not long ago the gravest fears were expressed lest any Spanish ministry making peace should plunge the country ato a civil war. Senor Sagasta's delays were explained very plausibly by the necessity for ample preparation of the public mind for the inevitable surrender. But now that the surrender has been made, the alarming thing is that the public do not seem to care in the least. Not only is the expected storm of patriotic grief and wounded pride altogether absent, but there is not even such a moderate display of feeling as the occasion seems to demand. The organ of Senor Silvela is shocked by the total apathy of the nation, by the philosophic calm with which the educated classes explain that after all the loss of the colonies is a blessing in disguise, and by the fatalism with which the mass of the people accept the accomplished fact, asking only that they may not be troubled with the details. So far as can be gathered, the Conservatives are called upon to find a remedy for this national torpor, though what the remedy is to be is not made very clear. It may be surmised that, at all events, the efficacy of a partisan attack upon the men n power finds a place among the ideas of this critic. That seems about as far as public spirit can go in Spain just at present. It does not appear that there is any real danger of either a Carlist or a Republican outbreak. The country has reached a stage of disgust at which the ordinary quack remedies fail to excite any interest

Daily News-London, Aug. 17.

The bombardment of Manila by Admiral Dewey was conducted, as might have been assumed, in the most humane and considerate fashion. The city was spared, and only the trenches were shelled. The town itself escaped. There is a great difference, and Admiral Dewey deserves to be congratulated upon his consideration for the lives of non combatants. Between 1882 and 1885 there was no surer method of drawing Mr. Gladstone than by making an allusion to the "bombardment of Alexandria." "The forts of Alexandria," Mr. Gladstone used to say; 'Alexandria was never bombarded.' The names of the Commissioners, whose duty it will be to determine the fate of Cuban affairs, have been communicated to the Press. They are General Wade, General Butler, and Admiral Sampson The Commissioners at Puerto Pico are General Brooke, General Gordon, and Admiral Schley. Their functions are more dignified than important. Before the ink was dry on the official paper the troops had begun to be removed from a trying and unhealthy climate. The real difficulty will come when the future of the Philippines has to be considered. There is a sharp divison of opinion upon this subject in the United States. Some say that the Philippines are necessary to the salvation of the Union. Others protest against the foundation of Asiatic Colonies with the inevitable enlarge ment of administrative responsibility. Spain is at the mercy of the United States, who can annex the Philippines it they choose. So far as British interests are concerned, we have nothing to fear from the annexation. * * * * Several Senators have refused the President's request that they would serve on the Peace Commission. Their excuse is plausible enough, because the Senate ought to pronounce an absolutely inde-

Morning Post-London, Aug. 17 The Americans, now that the war is over, begin to count the cost, and the result is altogether different from that which we are told to expect by the good people who preach the delights of peace. S me generous blood has been shed, much treasure has been expended; but on the whole, even t om a financial point of view, the profits greatly exceed the outlay. Two of the largest and most richly endowed Islands in the Atlantic Ocean are thrown open to American enterprise. Plainly, this fact alone must give a great impetus to business in the Republic. The traffic returns on the lines connected with the Gulf of Mexico will be immediately increased, and the whole manufacturing industry of t Eastern States will be stimulated to satisfy the wants of the new markets. If President McKinley succeeds in securing a party majority in the November elections to Congres he will be in position to maint in the Internal Revenue bill on ac ount of the necessary additions to expenditure resulting from the War Loan and the incre-se of the navy and of the army. Though steps have already been taken to reduce the army, a considerable addition to that head of the Budget will be necessary for many years to come. The American Navy, as opposed to that of Spain, has achieved brilliant results, but every American is aware that for the new position which his country has assumed the naval equipment is insufficient The ships hastily tu ned into vessels of war during the last few months would not count in a conflict with a great naval Power. To bring the American navy up to the standard required by the reputation of the country will involve ong course of expenditure. In view of these conditions the abando ment of the Internal Revenue taxation is impos sible, and its retention will naturally

Norddeutsche Zeitung-(Berlin).

lead to a more stable and healthy finan-

cial condition throughout the Union

The Kaiserin Augusta has taken Gen-Augusti and his family to Hong Kong, and evidently did not leave Manila till after its surrender. After that the Spanish officers were set at liberty, and the General was, therefore, free to go whereever he pleased. Admiral Von Diederichs certainly allowed him to go to Hong Kong on board the Kaiserin Augusta, only with the consent of the American Commander, if he thought that necessary. It must also be mintioned that, according to agreement, the Spanish troops are at liberty to go to Spain or to Hong Kong.

How England G INED Ho G KONG. Horace Windom, in the British Realm.

than ent anced, whatever your previous experiences of nature's beauties, with he unsurpassed loveliness of the scenethe lightest sky and the bluest sea whereon rest a large fleet of mammoth merchant ships, of men of war of every nation, thousands of picturesque junks and myriads of sampans, or native to writes Major Knollys, in his charm-

ng "English Lite in China," and no one who has seen the approach to the island of Hong Kong from the sea can fail to endorse the above opinion. Very beau tiful, indeed, is the appearance of the lofty, verdure clad hills, sloping downwards to the shelving bay that forms one of the most magnificent harbors in the world. The ranges are treely interspersed with water courses, which in the ainy season are converted into foaming torrents; waving palms raise their graceful heads in the beautiful gardens on the slopes, and spreading banyan trees afford a pleasant shelter from the ierce rays of the morning sun Along the co st line are carefully cultivated fields or sweet potatoes, rice and garnand high above all towers the loft Victoria Peak" (1 925 feet in height) ts name. Inland, however, the scene is a different one. Here, cultivation gives place to bleakness and barrenness. Stunted trees, straggling shrubs, and rank herbage abound, and the lightly flowering plants and graceful terns of the sea fontage are unknown. Large granite boulders dot the bare, gloomy hillsides, split up into innumerable ravines, and silence and desolation seem o succeed the cheerful activity and bustle of the busy town.

Like the majority of our colonial pos ssions, the island of Hong Kong was not brought under British sway without resorting to the power of the sword. The fields which today bear smiling crops, were once dyed red with English blood, and many a gallant soldier, now sleeping peacefully in the "Happy Valley" cemetery, met his death in the fighting which our occupation of this dependency occasioned. The chain of ircumstances that led to the establish ment, on its present firm basis, of British power, in this distant quarter, is an exeedingly involved one Briefly, how ever, it is as follows: Ever since the ommencement of the present century a band of ringlish merchants had been settled there, engaged in tracing operations. Their presence was looked upon with keen disfavor by he Celestials and by them the "foreign devils" (as they charitably designated everyone not of native birth) were subjected to a long course of petty annoyance and unjust exaction. At last, about 1839, things had come to such a pass that our trade was threatened with total extermination and the position of the English residents was an exceedingly humiliating one. crisis was occasioned by the sudden in prisonment, on an unfounded charge, o two European factory owners, a d tneir release was only secured by their undertaking to surrender to the Chinese local Mandarins two million pounds' worth of

Letters of remonstrance from the British Legation were unheeded, and the expostulations of the East India Company, who had a large depot here,

carrying 3,000 troops, suddenly appeared a special Act admits others—as, for exoff the mouth of the Canton river. The coup was quite unexpected, and the Chinese officials were completely taken by surprise. Sir J. G. Bremner, in command of the troops on board, had brought with him from England a letter of Lord Palmerston's, in which an indemnity was demanded for the slights to which the English inhabitants of Hong Kong had been subjected by the officials of the Emperor of China, "The Son of Heaven and Brother of the Moon," &c., vouchsafing no reply to this despatch, preparations were made for the commencement of hostilities. Before this was actually undertaken, however, a last appeal was determined upon. Capt. Bourchier, H.M.S. Blonde, was sent to Amoy, bearing a letter for the Chinese Admiral at that port Despite the fact that his ship was flying a flag of truce, this officer ordered the Chinese gunners ia the forts surrounding the harbor to fire upon him. Under these circumstances an amicable settlement was naturally out of the question. Accordingly, a portion of the expedition was landed on the coast, and hos ilities commenced in earnest. The capture of the city of Tinghai was speedily effected, and the Chinese immediately sued for peace. While the terms of capitulation were being discussed, it was discovered that the enemy were surreptitiously repairing their defences and mustering reinforcements of Tartars, In addition to this, the Mandarins were employing such gentle methods of exterminating our troops as consisted in poisoning the water supply. &c. These facts coming to light the temporary truce that had existed was promptly annulled, and in anuary, 1841, the rogue forts were:

This action was gallantly pe ormed, and at considerable loss to them :lvesby the 1,400 men of the Came conian regiment, assisted by detachments of the 26th, 49th and 37th Madras native infan try. The officer who directed the operations was Major Pratt, of the East India Company's service. The enemy now again sued for peace, and a treaty was arranged in terms of which the island of Hong Kong was ceded to England. On January 26, 1841, the Union Jack was hoisted on Pasenion Point by Admiral Dowell, then a young midshipman. Captain (afterwards Sir Charles) Elliott was appointed Governor and Minister Plenipotentiary for Great

A NEW AMERICAN MERCHANT NAVY. London Syren.

It is well worth considering what

effect the war between Spain and the United States will have upon the world's ocean carrying trade in the near future. Barring the Great Lakes and the Coast trade, the merchant navy of America was, and is, altogether insignificant. Spain may also be similarly ignored in this connection. Yet only twoscore years ago, on his return home from this country, Buchanan, in an address to his fellow citizens of the Great Republic, declared that the United States mercantile marine was the largest in the world. Statistics fully supported that view. At that time in the principal docks of Liverpool the American flag was well in evidence on some of the finest sailing ships the world has ever seen, or probably ever will see. Even our best ships were built on the other side of the Atlantic, brought over here, and sold to English owners The clipper craft of those days carried an amount of canvas which would almost seem incredible to the junior officers now in existence. One of the class, the Donald McKay, had moonsail, skysails, and skysai studding sails! It anything the practice is becoming more prevalent of doing without studding sails and anything above a royal. As a matter of fact, the manning scale of forty years ago was liberal to a fault, and permitted of such a spread of canvas; whereas lower reights and reckless competition have now compelled the strictest economy in men and material. In | ne. 1856, the lames Banes, as recorded in her log book did 21 knots with main skysail set petore a fresh gale; and on another occasion, while making 17 knots under similar canvas, sighted the Libertas

topsail. There is nothing affoat will compare with these old time sailing vessels in point of speed. The United States was the home of these splendid specimens of the naval architect's art. Iron and the "tea kettle" seemed in some way to paralyze the arm of the American shipbuilder. Wood and hemp were more familiar to him, and a sailor could not desire a prettier sight than one of these clippers under full sail with her cotton canvas glistening in the summer sun. The glory of the American mercantile marine has departed; whether it will ever return is open to argument. In 1855 there were built in the United States 381 square rigged ships and barqu s and 126 brigantines Last year throughout the whole country but one small barque was launched, and not a ingle full rigged ship or brigantine! These figures, obtained from the reports of Mr. E. T. Chamberlain, Commissioner Navagation at Washington, bear eloquent testimony to the downfall o America's Mercantile Marine. Yet there s a large am unt of American capital invested in shipping under foreign flags. Under the protection of native industry system a capitalist of the Great Republic may not buy a ship built abroad and place it under his countr. 's flag. Every restriction is placed in the way of transfer of this description, lest the shipbuilding industry of the United States should suffer. Apparently, our near kin would rather be without ocean carrying craft than permit the purchase of foreign built ships and transfer of flag At any rate, this is the net result of such re-Nevertheless, commercial men-tully

going the same way under close reefed

alive to the hardships of the law-are ment. But almost no one—at ear almost no one of those opinions have been printed opinions have been pr battleships, two trigates and tourteen certain conditions these vessels are measuring of altitudes, is employed.

smaller vessels, with four transports, granted American registry. Then, again, ample, the American liners New York and the Paris. Another way is to control a line of steamers under time charters, so that they are practically American in all but the flag. Other vessels are bought and run under their old flags. Hence, the small number of ships in the ocean carrying trade under the American flag is very little, if any, criterion as to the amount of American capital invested in shipping. The present war, however, seems to open wide a door for the wholesale entry of toreign built ships to American registry, while at the same time enabling both Britishers and Americans to reap a golden harvest.

> THE GREAT HEAT WAVE. Daily Telegraph-London, Aug. 16.

Everybody familiar with various climates knows what an amazing distinction exists between dry heat and damp heat. In the moistureless desert, or upon the porous coral of Barbados, or even on the plains of India before the rains, the healthy frame endures quite easily the hot wind that curls up your writing paper, and melts your sealing wax. So long as the insensible perspiration, by a marvellous mechanism, keeps down the temperature of the blood, the sensation of that golden heat for the temperature is often delightful, But, if the air be heavy with latent mosture, the eighty degrees of Piccadilly last Sunday may easily feel far more burdensome than the light, dry radiance of a tropical noon. Then, too, in zones and regions where such red hot days are to be expected, everybody stands ready for them in point of apparel, house shelter, and thermantidotes. * * * Be it noted that sunstrokes, almost absolutely unknown in the strong summers of Japan, are far more due to the state of the heated air than to actual isolation, or injury by the sun's direct beams. One proof of this is that "sunstroke," as it is termed, occurs more frequently in the morning than later on during the chief heat of the day. It may be mentioned here that the Oriental cure for these visitations is not to apply cold water to the head and face. * * Many a poor, hard working "vanner" and "stager" has succumbed during the past week in harness, before a thermometer which would mean nothing but healthy sweat to his cousin, the Arab, in Egypt, or to the Cossack's little steed in the burning July of the steepes. As for Londoners, they must keep as cool as they can, and wait patiently until the southwesterly wind brings up the utumn clouds from the Atlantic. There is one permanent advantage, at all events, in our English weather, which is that, whenever it runs to any extreme of heat or cold, it is very likely to change within a short space of time.

Daily Chronicle-London, Aug. 17. In the last few days, according to general reports, the city has risked sunstroke in its ancient panoply. The old warri rs were happy in the thought that should they fall in battle they would be found with all their wounds in front. Their stern spirit animates the city man, who rejoices to think that if he should be sat upon by a coroner's jury it will be testified that he wore his silk hat to the last gasp. Englishmen home from India have none of this pride. They say that even the heat of the plains is nothing to our August, and they lament that the garments they are accustomed to wear under an Oriental sun were not put into a kit bag before they left Calcutta. The spectacle of the Anglo-Indian groaning in the wonted harness of Bond Street may excite misgivings in the city man's mind as to the stability of our Indian Empire. * * * It is very well to say that heat waves are transitory, but the experience of the last few years makes a very hot August even more probable than the fulfilment of a prediction by Old Moore. Why, by the way, does not that sage give his prophetic soul to heat waves? His authority is greater than that of the meteorologists, and it he were to make it hot for us in August for the next five years he might persuade a considerable part of the community to lay in a stock of appropriate garments.

THE NEW GERMAN FIELD GUN. The Jahrbucher in Germany, the Reichswehr in Austria, the Revue de Cercie Militaire in France, and many other professional journals have lately been discussing the new German field gun. The weapon is of 7 7 cm. (3'285 inches) calibre, and thus a little smaller than the old gun which has a calibre of 85 cm. According to the Reichswehr it is inscribed and adorned with the words "Pro Gloria et Patrie," the German eagle, the Imperial cypher, and the motto, "Ultima ratio regis," Cannister has been suppressed, and shrapnel is the chief ammunition, though the old common shell is still retained, but will probably go from the field gun when howitzers are definitely adopted. The projectile and brass cartridge are really separate, though packed together to expedite loading There is a brake as in the old gun, with a sporn or spade formation at the trail, which holds the gun firmly to the ground when quick firing, with an arrangement by which the aim can be changed in some measure without moving the carriage. The weight behind the team is about 100 kg. (220 lbs.) lighter than is the case of the gun in service at the present time. The rifling, which has over thirty grooves, has a progressive twist. the final direction being with an angle of 7 deg. to the axis of the gun. The breech mechanism is on a prismatic wedge principle, and opens to the right instead of to the left as now, with two movements Firing is by means of percus ion, and after the discharge the used cartridge case is thrown over the lett wheel of the carriage, with a view of placing it in the least disadvantageous position. The new gun is sighted in a special manner, with graduations for